

Applicants: Wagner, et al.
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REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action dated September 17, 2004 and the references cited therein. In response thereto, Applicants have amended the application and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In this Amendment, Claims 12-26 have been added and Claim 2 has been cancelled. Therefore, Claims 1 and 3-26 are presented for consideration.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated the Claims 2, 6, 7 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 8, 10 and 11 depend on rejected claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge this indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the elements of Claim 2. Claim 2 has therefore been cancelled. Accordingly, as indicated by the Examiner, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1, as amended, and those claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish over the references of record.

Applicants have added new Claim 12, which includes the elements of original Claims 1 and 6. In that this combination of claims has been deemed allowable, Applicants

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respectfully submit that new Claim 12 is allowable. Applicants have also added new dependent Claims 13 to 21, which depend from new Claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claims 12 to 21 patentably distinguish over the references of record.

Applicants have further added independent Claims 22 and 24. New independent Claim 22 includes the elements of originally filed Claims 1, 3 and 7. In that this combination of claims has been deemed allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 22, and new Claim 23, which depends therefrom, patentably distinguish over the references of record.

New Claim 24 includes the elements as set forth in originally filed Claims 1, 3 and 9. New Claims 25 and 26 have been added, and they depend from Claim 24. Since this combination of claims has been deemed to be allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 24, and those claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish over the references of record.

As a result of this Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance with Claims 1 and 3-26.

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If a telephone interview would be helpful in moving this case toward allowance, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the number set forth below.

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 822-3550
AEB:jlw

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony E. Bennett", written over a horizontal line.

Anthony E. Bennett
Registration No.: 40,910
Attorney for Applicant(s)